

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 26, 2010

MEETING #5 6:00 P.M.

PRIMROSE FIRE DEPARTMENT

1470 PROVIDENCE PIKE

NORTH SMITHFIELD, RI 02896

MEMBERS:	JASON TINER (CHAIR)	___	PRESENT	X	ABSENT
	KENNETH MURPHY (V. CHAIR)	___	PRESENT	X	ABSENT
	JOHN WOJCIK (REC. SEC.)	X	PRESENT	___	ABSENT
	MICHAEL CLIFFORD	X	PRESENT	___	ABSENT
	FRANCESCA JOHANNIS	___	PRESENT	X	ABSENT
	ALFRED PUCCETTI	X	PRESENT	___	ABSENT
	LINDA THIBAUT	X	PRESENT	___	ABSENT

* AGENDA: REVIEW OF TOWN CHARTER ARTICLES

* MEETING CALL TO ORDER: BY J.WOJCIK TIME: 6:05 P.M.

* APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 18, 2010: MINUTES APPROVED
MOTION BY L.THIBAUT SECONDED BY M.CLIFFORD

* MINUTES SUBMITTED BY RECORDING SECRETARY: J.WOJCIK

DISCUSSION OF SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT BY J.TINER AND M.CLIFFORD
COMBINING IDEAS FROM A.PUCCETTI'S HANDOUT OF FEBRUARY 18 AND THE
CURRENT CHARTER LANGUAGE OF ARTICLE VIII THE BUDGET.

DISCUSSION BEGAN BY M.CLIFFORD STATING THAT J.TINER AND HE FOUND
MANY OF THE PROVISIONS IN A.PUCCETTI'S REPORT ENTITLED "COMMENTS
ON REVISION TO THE BUDGET COMMITTEE PROVISION" ALREADY COVERED
IN THE CURRENT TOWN CHARTER. HE STATED THAT THE REPORT DETAILED
MANY ITEMS RATHER THAN GENERALIZING. HE CONCLUDED THAT ONE
MAJOR PROVISION IN THE REPORT, HOWEVER, SHOULD REPLACE THE
FOLLOWING:

ARTICLE III FINANCIAL PROVISIONS OF THE TOWN

SECTION 3. BUDGET COMMITTEE.

"There shall be a budget committee consisting of five
members ... the town council member who made the original
appointment or replacement."

MOTION BY M.CLIFFORD: BUDGET COMMITTEE'S SUGGESTIONS IN ROMAN NUMERAL I "BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP" BE ADOPTED BY THE CHARTER COMMITTEE TO REPLACE THE CURRENT ARTICLE III SECTION 3. BUDGET COMMITTEE (PAGE 13 OF THE CURRENT TOWN CHARTER) EXCLUDING THE INCLUSION OF SMALL ROMAN NUMERALS iii AND vi. SECONDED BY L.THIBAUT.

AFTER A BRIEF DISCUSSION THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. THE PROPOSED ARTICLE III SECTION 3 WOULD READ AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE III

SECTION 3. BUDGET COMMITTEE

"Each member of the town council shall appoint one member of the budget committee which shall consist of five (5) members, with an appointment procedure that allows for staggered three (3) year terms. Starting in the first year of appointment there will be one (1) member with a one (1) year term, two (2) members with two (2) year terms, and two (2) members with three (3) year terms, and as each initial appointment term ends appointees will continue to be reappointed for three (3) year terms. In succeeding years there will be a one (1) member appointment, followed by a two (2) member appointment, and followed by another two (2) member appointment all on staggered three (3) year appointments.

(a) Committee members should be qualified electors at the time of their appointment.

(b) Committee members should continue to be appointed and reappointed no later than June of each year and prior to submission of the current fiscal year budget at June 30th.

(c) In the event of a vacancy on the committee, the town council should make an interim appointment to complete the finished term of the vacant position.

(d) If a committee member ceases to be a qualified elector and/or resident of the town, his/her position should become vacant.

DISCUSSION TURNED TO ARTICLE III SECTION 2. SUBMISSION OF ESTIMATES. L.THIBAUT VOICED THE OPINION THAT IN SUBSECTION (a), THE DATE OF THE "SECOND MONDAY IN JANUARY OF EACH YEAR" SHOULD BE CHANGED TO THE "SECOND MONDAY IN DECEMBER." SHE ALSO ASKED IF THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT SHOULD HAVE THE SAME DATE FOR THEIR OPERATING BUDGET.

MOTION BY M.CLIFFORD: IN ARTICLE III SECTION 2. SUBMISSION OF ESTIMATES, SUBSECTION (a), LINE ONE (1), THE WORD JANUARY BE CHANGED TO DECEMBER. SECONDED BY A.PUC CETTI. DISCUSSION MADE THE POINT THAT IT MAY BE PRUDENT TO POSTPONE CHANGING THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE DATE UNTIL THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE IS IN ATTENDANCE. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE III

SECTION 2. SUBMISSION OF ESTIMATES

SUBSECTION (a)

MEMBERS AGREED

CHANGE "...THE SECOND MONDAY IN JANUARY OF EACH YEAR..."
TO "... THE SECOND MONDAY IN DECEMBER OF EACH YEAR..."

CONTINUING TO USE THE BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT, DISCUSSION THEN FOCUSED ON ARTICLE VIII THE BUDGET. MEMBERS AGREED THAT PREVIOUSLY THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGES MADE TO "SECTION 1. FISCAL YEAR" AND TO "SECTION 2. BUDGET GENERAL." BEGINNING WITH SECTION 3, HOWEVER, A CHANGE WAS PROPOSED.

ARTICLE VIII THE BUDGET

SECTION 3. PREPARATION OF THE BUDGET

MOTION BY M.CLIFFORD: IN LINE FIVE (5) "...THE THIRD MONDAY IN FEBRUARY..." SHOULD BE CHANGED TO "...THE THIRD MONDAY IN JANUARY..." SECONDED BY A.PUC CETTI. DISCUSSION. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

SECTION 4. PROCEDURE FOR THE BUDGET

MEMBERS AGREED NO CHANGE

DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON "...NOT LATER THAN THE FIFTEENTH DAY OF JANUARY..." IT WAS AGREED THAT THIS MEANT A BUDGET COULD BE CONSIDERED ANYTIME BEFORE JANUARY FIFTEENTH AND NO CHANGE WAS NEEDED.

SECTION 5. BUDGET FORMAT

MEMBERS AGREED NO CHANGE

SECTION 6. SUBMISSION OF THE BUDGET

MEMBERS AGREED NO CHANGE.

SECTION 7. CERTIFICATION OF DETAILED BUDGET

MEMBERS AGREED NO CHANGE.

SECTION 8. BUDGET CONTROL

MEMBERS AGREED NO CHANGE

IN THE DISCUSSION OF A.PUCETTI'S REPORT FROM THE BUDGET COMMITTEE, SECTION I "BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP" SMALL ROMAN NUMERAL iii WAS NOT PROPOSED BECAUSE NO PREFERENCE SHOULD BE GIVEN. SMALL ROMAN NUMERAL vi WAS NOT PROPOSED BECAUSE THE ISSUE WAS ALREADY COVERED IN ARTICLE VIII SECTION 3 OF THE CHARTER.

SECTION II "NECESSITY" WAS NOT PROPOSED BECAUSE THE ISSUE WAS ALREADY COVERED IN ARTICLE VIII SECTION 3.

SECTION III "BOARD PURPOSE" WAS NOT PROPOSED BECAUSE THE ISSUE WAS ALREADY IN THE CHARTER.

SECTION IV "OFFICE AND COMMITTEE MEMBER DUTIES" WAS NOT PROPOSED BECAUSE (a) WAS ALREADY COVERED BY ARTICLE VIII SECTION 3, AND (B) WAS ALREADY COVERED BY ARTICLE VIII SECTIONS 2, 4, 5, AND 6.

SECTION V "MEETINGS" WAS NOT PROPOSED BECAUSE (a) HAD ALREADY BEEN ADDRESSED BY CHANGES OF DATES IN ARTICLE VIII SECTIONS 3 AND 4.

SECTION V PART(b) ALREADY COVERED IN ARTICLE III SECTION 5.

IN SECTION V PART (c) WAS NOT PROPOSED BECAUSE IT WAS COVERED IN ARTICLE VIII SECTIONS 3 AND 4 AND ADDRESSED BY PUBLIC HEARING RULES.

SECTION V PART (d) WAS COVERED BY ARTICLE IV SECTION 10.

FINALLY, SECTION VI WAS NOT PROPOSED BECAUSE IT WAS ALREADY COVERED IN ARTICLE III SECTION 5 AND ARTICLE VIII SECTION 6.

THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE FOUND THE BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT VERY HELPFUL AND WOULD LIKE TO THANK A.PUCETTI AND THE MEMBERS OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE WHO PUT TOGETHER THE REPORT. THE CHARTER COMMITTEE THOUGHT THAT IN ADDITION TO THE TOWN CHARTER, THE REPORT WOULD BE A GOOD OUTLINE AND/OR GUIDE FOR BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

UPON FINISHING DISCUSSION OF ARTICLE VIII, L.THIBAUT FOCUSED ON ARTICLE XV.

ARTICLE XV OTHER OFFICES AND COMMISSIONS

SECTION 9. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MOTION BY L.THIBAUT: CHANGE THE NAME OF "INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION" TO "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION." SECONDED BY M.CLIFFORD. DISCUSSION. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

THE FOCUS OF THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING SHOULD BE ARTICLES V AND VI. MEETING #6 IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2010, AT THE PRIMROSE FIRE STATION.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: L.THIBAUT. SECONDED BY M.CLIFFORD.
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:00 P.M.

